(b) whether the reward of Rs. 2,000 has been offered at the instance of the Police; and

(c) whether there is any principle on which such offer of rewards is based?

A.—(a) It is a fact that the murderer has not been arrested.

(b) No.

(c) A reward is offered when it is considered that without such inducement persons will withhold information which they may happen to have.

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo:—"I want to know whether such rewards are offered at the instance of the police?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sometimes they are."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"May I know whether the final report has been made by the Police?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The case has not yet been detected."

Conduct of officers of the Madras City Police regarding the Imperial Bank case.

* 9 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has come to any decision as to further action to be taken about the conduct of some officers of the Madras City Police in connexion with the Imperial Bank fraud case and the action of the Commissioner of Police in issuing a circular commending the action of the Police in the said case without reference to Government;

(b) if so, the nature of the action taken or proposed to be taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have passed orders and communicated them to the officers concerned.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House the orders passed on this matter?"

12-45 p.m.

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I regret my inability to do so."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I put another question to the hon. the Law Member? I am sure he appreciates what I say. The Commissioner of Police issued a circular commending the action of the police, without reference to the Government, and the Government later regretted that action. I think the hon. the Law Member standing on the floor of this House also said that it was unfortunate that it should have been done so. I am saying this because it is a matter in which the public are interested. We want to know who is the master here, whether it is the Government, or whether it is the Commissioner of Police. I want to know also the nature of the orders passed and the reasons that led the Government to pass those orders."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"On that particular matter whether Government is the master or the Commissioner of Police, I have no hesitation in saying that Government is the master, and the

Commissioner of Police realizes it too. As to the other matters, in the circumstances of the case, as the particular officers concerned have been appraised of the opinion that the Government entertained regarding their conduct, I do not consider, acting on behalf of the Government, that any public interest would be served by placing these papers on the table of the House."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I ask whether the opinion is adverse or favourable to the police? I hope it is adverse."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—"It seems there has been a good deal of public agitation with respect to the conduct of the police. Does my hon. Friend think that the public are not entitled to know what opinion the Government have formed regarding the conduct of the police?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Opinions on certain aspects of the matter, on which Government have had an opportunity to have their say, have been expressed in answer to a series of questions on the floor of this House. The particular action that has been taken or was found necessary to be taken in regard to certain indiscretions of particular police officers has been taken, and it is not considered advisable that the details of this action should be communicated on the floor of this House."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know what was the opinion of the Judge who tried the case about the conduct of these officers?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"We have not enquired and we do not propose to enquire into it."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Is it not a fact that there was a communication from the Judge who tried the case, appreciating the conduct of the police officers?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Does my hon. Friend make an allegation to that effect?"

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"The answer to this question on the paper is that the Government have communicated something about the officers concerned. Is it that the Government propose to take action against these officers even against the opinion of the Judge who said that the conduct of the police was very good, and if the Judge commended the conduct of the police, why are the Government going to punish these officers?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I should be surprised to learn that a person in the position of a High Court Judge sent round a circular of the kind. As a matter of fact, no such thing was circulated. Probably my hon. Friend is referring to certain remarks occurring in the charge to jury."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I want to know whether the Government will enquire whether the Judge who tried the case appreciated the conduct of these officers of the Madras City Police."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The Government must decline to put any Judge of the High Court in that position."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" I want the Government to inquire whether there was any communication received in the office of the Commissioner of Police from the Judge who tried the case."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I refuse to believe that any Judge of the High Court sent a private communication to the Commissioner of Police on such a topic. The Government would be astounded to know if a Judge of the High Court had issued a certificate adverting to the action of the police."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Is it not usual that the head of the department might appreciate something in the subordinates without consulting the Government, and should he not consult the Government whenever he wants to appreciate his subordinates ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Not at all."

Government Press.

Appointments in the Government Press.

* 10 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) how many were employed castewar in the Linotype branch and in the Confidential branch of the headquarter Government Press of Madras since 24th November 1922 to 24th November 1924 ;

(b) how many applications were received castewar for appointments in the various branches of the Government Press of Madras during the past two years, i.e., 24th November 1922 to 24th November 1924 ; and

(c) how many of them were appointed castewar since 24th November 1922 to 24th November 1924 ?

A.—It would take considerable time and trouble to collect the information asked for, and the Government do not think that it would serve any useful purpose.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to clauses (b) and (c) of the question, I want to know whether it is not possible for the Government to find out at least how many applications were received from the members of the depressed classes and how many people were appointed since 1922 up to November 1924 "

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—" If my hon. Friend will give me some idea as to what useful purpose will be served by obtaining the information he asks for, I will see what can be done to meet his desire."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" It is for the purpose of making sure whether the depressed classes are being encouraged. With that view I put the question."

Finance.

Effect of the proposals of the Lee Commission on the Madras Government.

* 11 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the approximate effect on the Madras Government finances of the decision of His Majesty's Government on the Lee Commission's report for the years 1924–25, 1925–26 and 1926–27 ?